

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-01 SY-04 USIA-06 EB-04 SCCT-01

SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 PRS-01 PA-01 FBO-02 SAI-01 CIAE-00

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FM AMCONSUL MILAN

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3811

C O N F I D E N T I A L MILAN 1616

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS IT

SUBJ: MILAN SECURITY SITUATION

REF: MILAN 1609

I MET WITH PREFECT PETRICCIONE AND HEAD OF CARABINIERI THIS MORNING TO PROTEST NOV. 5 ATTACK ON TC.

PETRICCIONE WAS APOLOGETIC AND FORTHCOMING. HE SAID THAT A MAJOR INCREASE IN POLICE EFFECTIVENESS IS NOW IN TRAIN. HIS FORCE OF RADIO DIRECTED POLICE CARS IN MILAN WITH 3 TO 4 POLICE IN EACH WILL RISE FROM PRESENT 40 TO 100 BY NOV. 10 AND STILL MORE DURING COMING MONTHS. PLAN IS TO DIMINISH RESPONSE TIME TO CALLS IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE OVERALL INCREASE IN POLICE COVER. POLICE ARE COOPERATING WITH PRIVATE ALARM-PATROL SYSTEMS BEING SET UP BY EX-PREFECT CASSERA THAT WILL BE OFFERED TO BANKS, JEWELRY STORES AND INDUSTRY THAT WILL ADD ANOTHER 50 RADIO DIRECTED PATROL CARS TO NETWORK THAT WILL BE FULLY INTERCONNECTED.

MEANWHILE, SPECIAL DETAIL OF 100 AGENTS NOW WORKING EXCLUSIVELY ON SUPPRESSION OF BRIGATE ROSSE AND PETRICCIONE CLAIMS TO HAVE ARRESTED HALF OF ITS MILITANTS WITH EXPECTATION OF ROUNDING UP THE REST WITHIN A YEAR. MOREOVER, HE WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT EXTRA-PARLIAMENTARY LEFT HAD BEEN HURT BADLY BECAUSE POLICE HAD BEEN  
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GETTING AT ITS FINANCING AND WITHOUT MONEY, HE MAINTAINED, SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY IS NOT A PROBLEM

SIMILARLY, HE HAS SPECIAL DETAIL ON RIGHTIST SUBVERSIVES AND CLAIMED COMPARABLE SUCCESS IN APPREHENDING ITS LEADERS IN AREA.

REMAINING MAJOR PROBLEM IS KIDNAPPING. HE FEARS THAT EXTREMISTS USING IT AS MEANS TO RAISE FUNDS AS PINCH TIGHTENS ON OTHER SOURCES. SO FAR, DIFFERENTIATION OF KIDNAPPING AS A POLITICAL CRIME AND AS SOURCE POLITICAL FUNDS VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE, HN HIS VIEW. HOWEVER, THIRD SPECIAL DETAIL TO CONCENTRATE ON KIDNAPPING NOW BEING SET UP AND PETRICCIONE SWEARS HE WILL REDUCE THIS THREAT TOO.

TURNING TO OTHER STEPS, HE REVEALED THAT HE IS WORKING TO HARDEN JUDICIAL PROCEDURES TO STOP PRACTICE OF RELEASING SUSPECTS PENDING TRIAL (BAIL SYSTEM WITHOUT BOND PRESENTLY NORMAL PRACTICE). PETRICCIONE POINTED TO JUDGE'S DECISION NOV. 6 TO DENY BAIL TO SUSPECTS IN RECENT EXTREME LEFTIST ATTACK ON SUPERMARKET AS EXAMPLE OF HIS EFFORTS. MOREOVER, HE IS TRYING TO SECURE AN ISLAND ON WHICH TO ISOLATE SUSPECTS AWAITING TRIAL AND EXPECTS TO SUCCEED IN GETTING IT. (IN VIEW OF LONG DELAY BETWEEN ARREST AND TRIAL, SUCH DETENTION BECOMES ADMINISTRATIVE IMPRISONMENT AND, I SUSPECT, COULD LEAD TO MUCH PROTEST. HOWEVER, SINCE COMMUNISTS ARE MAIN OPEN POLITICAL FORCE FOR GOVERNMENT TO CONTEND WITH AND SINCE PC SYMPATHY FOR TERRORISTS OF EXTREME LEFT AND RIGHT IS CURRENTLY NON-EXISTENT, SUCH INFRINGEMENTS OF NORMAL CIVIL RIGHTS MAY BE POSSIBLE AT LEAST FOR

A TIME.)

PETRICCIONE INSISTED THAT POLITICAL TERRORISM IS ON THE DOWN-TURN IN LOMBARDY AND THAT GOVERNMENT HAS BOTH THE WILL AND THE RESOURCES TO REDUCE PROBLEM TO MINOR PROPORTIONS.

REGARDING US TARGETS, PETRICCIONE OFFERED COOPERATION AND INVITED SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING PROTECTION. HIS PRINCIPAL SPECIFIC PROPOSAL TO MEET TRADE CENTER AND OTHER USG FACILITY NEEDS AS WELL AS THOSE OF INDUSTRY, WAS LINK UP TO POLICE ALARM SYSTEM. HE WAS OPPOSED TO INCREASING NUMBER OF FIXED GUARDS CONTENDING THAT WHILE SUCH USE OF RESOURCES INCREASED THE SECURITY OF A GIVEN BUILDING, IT DIMINISHED HIS CAPABILITY TO IMPROVE THE OVER-ALL SECURITY SITUATION AND TO GET AT THE ROOT OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

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HIS TACTICAL PLAN TO IMPROVE STREET COVERAGE IS THE REINFORCEMENT OF HIS ELECTRONIC COMMAND AND CONTROL NETWORK TO ASSURE AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES APPROACHING 30 SECONDS WITHIN THE CITY.

I ASKED (1) TO INSPECT THE ALARM SYSTEM TO UNDERSTAND ITS CAPABILITIES

AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE, BUT MEANWHILE ASKED (2) FOR ASSIGNMENT OF A GUARD TO THE TRADE CENTER DURING WORKING HOURS. I ALSO PROPOSED (3) TO EXPLORE CREATING A LIAISON CHANNEL BETWEEN THE US BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN LOMBARDY AND THE POLICE TO CONSIDER HOW INDIVIDUAL SECURITY

NEEDS COULD BETTER BE MET.

PETRICCIONE AGREED TO ITEMS ONE AND THREE AND PROMISED TO REPLY  
ON ITEM 2 AFTER REVIEW OF THE MATTER WITH HIS STAFF. FINA

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## Message Attributes

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